

For Specialized Service and Maintenance
of
MOTOR CARS and TRUCKS
CONSULT
THE SERVICE MANAGER
FAR EAST MOTORS
26 Nathan Road, Kowloon,
or
Telephone Service Kowloon 56849.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Dine
At the

P. G.

For
Reservations

Tel: 27880

VOL. II NO. 154

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1947.

Price 20 Cents

Lab. Rebels Defeated

London, Apr. 1.
The amendment moved by Labour Members to the Government's bill to extend conscription into the armed forces was defeated by 386 votes to 85, and the bill was read the second time.—*Reuter.*

Don Juan On Franco's Proclamation

Will Not Recognise
Validity

Lisbon, Apr. 1.
The official spokesman for Don Juan told *Reuter* today: "Don Juan was not consulted by General Franco on the new succession act by which Caudillo has proclaimed himself the head of the Spanish monarchy. Don Juan cannot recognise a law which is devoid of two essential requirements: Sanction of the Spanish people and his own consent as the legitimate claimant to the Spanish crown."
Spanish monarchists throughout the world awaited the declaration by Don Juan, 33-year-old pretender to the Spanish throne on last night's announcement by General Franco that Spain is again to become a kingdom—but a kingdom without a king, so long as General Franco is the head of the State.
In Madrid, monarchist circles regarded it as unlikely that Don Juan would accept the conditions attaching to General Franco's proclamation that the person of royal blood who succeeds General Franco must accept the fundamental laws of the present regime.
Italian monarchists expect that the news from Spain will give a powerful impetus to their aspirations for the restoration of a monarchy in Italy.
A French Foreign Office spokesman said that the French policy towards Spain would not be modified in any way.—*Reuter.*

FRANCO ATTACKED

London, Apr. 2.
In a violent attack on General Franco, Spain back into the ranks of monarchists. *Radio-Moscow* said today that the "shattered Fascist regime is not to be consolidated by decrees... what will bring him down is decisive and energetic action of united Spaniards."
Radio Moscow said: "The hated face of this Caudillo bred of a Fuehrer and a Duce is not to be hidden under the mask of a regent... Franco wishes to console himself for the loss of a master who made him a puppet, naming himself regent in the hope of pleasing new masters, whom he is ready to serve... Franco decided Spain should be a kingdom and with the same case makes himself king... If Franco is attempting to cover Fascism from the eyes of the world behind the cloak of royal purple, the masquerade is doomed to failure."—*United Press.*

EDITORIAL

British Divorce Laws

THE Law, as an instrument of cold reasoning, is probably right and proper when it declares, through the High Court of Appeal, that a wife's refusal to live a "normal married life" does not constitute sufficient grounds for her husband to obtain a divorce. But the lay mind will find it hard to discover the justice of such a ruling, just as it will be bewildered by the findings of a Leeds divorce court judge in which he declared that the woman who was being sued by her husband had committed adultery, but that the co-respondent had not. Both cases, in fact, give fine points to A. P. Herbert's classical satire on English divorce laws—"Holy Decree." In that unsuccessful attempt, through a best-selling introduction, a few amendments which would make the divorce laws slightly less legallyistic, rigid and more appropriate to the times, Herbert developed the theme of a man who, acting on the highest principles for the future happiness of his wife, fulfils every legal requirement in providing evidence of infidelity (at the same time suffering considerable discomfort and embarrassment), only to run into a sud-

denly-minded judge who came to the conclusion that the law had been too faithfully satisfied, and rejected the application. The High Court of Appeal in the judgment handed down yesterday followed accepted practice of deciding on principle at the expense of circumstances—a golden rule which usually confounds public opinion. Lord Jowitt raised an attractive debating point when he denied that a problem of morals could not be decided through the Christian doctrine of marriage but had to depend upon the relevant acts of Parliament. It will surprise many who have been given to understand that British laws are primarily based on Christian ideals and teachings, to find the law holds itself above a doctrine which represents the fundamental purpose of a Christian marriage ceremony. The ruling may be incontestable in law, but this, and other features of the *Raymond Weatherley* case leaves a renewed feeling that British divorce laws could bear some revision, based on human factors rather than inflexible legal dogma, without breaking down the nation's carefully preserved social and moral structure.

Plane Survivors' Hair-Raising Adventures

Sydney, Apr. 1.
Four men who survived a Dutch Dakota crash landing in Australia's most remote wilderness reached safety after five hair-raising days of adventure, during which they killed and ate a pet dog and machine-gunned a rampaging crocodile, it was reported today.
The four men, Captain van Nifterik, Radio Operator van Broun and two passengers named Houniet and Barnard, were weak from lack of food, footsore and weary from their ordeal.

They started from the site where the Dakota made a belly landing in a dense forest and covered nearly 100 miles down the rapid Katherine River. When they started, they had 40 oranges and two cans of condensed milk.
The plane carried seven persons, three of whom were left with the wreckage. No one was injured in the landing.

FOOD AND GEAR LOST

Two rafts were built to float the party and their gear down the Katherine. On the first day one of the rafts overturned and gear and food were lost. On the third day, they killed one of the two dogs with them and ate it. A crocodile attacked the remaining raft and they killed it with a Sten gun.
During the third day they came to a 30-foot waterfall with banks so steep they could not get down. They put an appeal for help on the remaining raft, shoved it over the waterfall and hoped for the best. Trying to lower the raft, Houniet almost drowned and Barnard had to rescue him, losing his shoes in the process.
The loss of shoes in rocky country was serious. A map case was cut up to make a pair of sandals for Barnard.

CAPTAIN'S STORY

Captain van Nifterik said: "The mountains were terrible. We had to do a lot of climbing and each mountain gave way to a deep gorge. We were dizzy from lack of food and lack of sleep. During the day flies annoyed us and at night mosquitoes almost drove us crazy. The rocks were hot and Barnard's feet were bleeding, but we could not afford to rest. We kept on going in the direction we thought safety lay because we could not count on our being received by anyone. It sure was a relief when they found us."
"They" were the rescue party which had set out from Katherine and which met the airmen seven miles from Katherine on Sunday. The four men lost considerable weight, but doctors said they would be all right.—*United Press.*

BING TO VISIT EUROPE

Hollywood, Apr. 1.
Bing Crosby has announced that he will go to Europe, probably in June, to entertain troops in zones of occupation.
He will make transcriptions for his American radio shows in London, Paris and Frankfurt, using American talent found among the troops.
In addition, the Andrews Sisters and Beatrice Lillie will be starred in these shows.—*Associated Press.*

Madagascar Natives' Revolt Spreads

The native uprising against the French in Madagascar, which began two days ago, has become general throughout the island and shows indications of having been prepared for some time, according to the French High Command in Tananarive, the capital.

Military reinforcements are being rushed to the most serious centres of trouble and military reprisal action on land and from the air is being carried out today.

The French authorities in Tananarive stated that warrants for the arrest of certain leaders of the separatist movement were issued today.

In a resume of the growth of uprisings, these authorities said that first indications of a native revolt in preparation reached the French administration last December and that security measures taken then halted the affair for the moment. A few days ago new indications of an imminent uprising reached the French military authorities in Tananarive, 200 miles south of Moramanga, in the interior, and warnings were issued in Moramanga, 50 miles east of Tananarive on Sunday only a few hours before the telephone line between the capital and that military post was cut and the first of violent native attacks took place.

ATTACKS BROKEN OFF

Meanwhile, military reports from the scenes of two most serious fighting areas, stated that at Manakara, 225 miles south of Tananarive, on the Madagascar east coast, the native attack which began on Monday had been "broken off" following French ground and air counter-attacks.

Several hundred natives were captured and three members of the European population were killed in the course of the attack.
At Moramanga, near Tananarive, where the separatists made their first attack on Sunday, armed with knives and spears, the French authorities reported calm today, while French patrols made reconnaissance sorties.
On the railway line northward from this town, nine Europeans were reported killed. Funeral services were held yesterday for these casualties at Moramanga, and wives and children from both Moramanga and Manakara were flown to Tananarive today.

SITUATION IN HAND

The French High Commissioner to Madagascar today flew over Vohiteno, island from Manakara on the railway line to Manakara, and reported seeing several fires. The military authorities, however, reported that the situation in Vohiteno was well in hand, with a French column advancing on it from Manakara.
No information was given in this latest report of the situation at the northern tip of the island, where the natives were reported to have overcome the military camp near Diego Suarez and made off with supplies of rifles, machine-guns and ammunition.
M. Marius Moutet, French Minister of Colonies, sent a telegram today to the High Commissioner, expressing the Government's condolences to the survivors of the victims of the uprising. A special investigator from the Ministry of Colonies also took off from Paris today for Tananarive.—*Reuter.*

RUSSIA GIVES APPROVAL

Lake Success, New York, Apr. 1.
The Soviet Union today approved the British proposal to hand the Palestine problem to a special General Assembly of the United Nations.
M. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet representative on the United Nations, told the United Nations Secretariat he had "no objections."
Replies are still awaited from France and China.—*Reuter.*



The late King George II of Greece, whose death occurred suddenly yesterday.

Prince Paul Is New Monarch Of Greece

London, Apr. 1.
The new King of Greece, Paul I, was sworn in tonight in the presence of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in a solemn ritual at the Royal palace a few hours after King George, his elder brother, had died suddenly from a heart attack.

While bells of 60 Athens churches tolled for the dead King, the Cabinet and Members of Parliament hurried through packed streets to pay homage to his successor.

The 38-year-old Premier, Dr. Dimitrios Maximos, handed King Paul the resignation of his Cabinet, in accordance with the constitution, and was mandated to form a new government.

The new King, a 46-year-old naval man, swore "In the Name of the Holy Trinity to protect the nation's religion, to respect the constitution and defend the freedom and integrity of Greece."

King Paul, in a message to the Greek people tonight, said: "We are

facing to-day a struggle for our very existence, for our independence and our liberties. United we will bring it to a successful end."
Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent, commenting on the death of the Greek King, says:
The Greek constitutional and political situation is expected in London to remain unchanged by the sudden death of King George II, one of the modern European monarchs whose position has been most subject to dispute in recent years.

On the constitutional issue the formal position is that the Greek constitution of 1935 is still in force. In 1935, on the restoration of the monarchy, the original monarchic constitution of 1844 was re-adopted with certain amendments.

STRENGTH OF MONARCHY

When last September the Greek nation voted on the Monarchy, the Royalist Government of Constantinos Tsaldaris did not raise the issue of the constitution as such. The only question put before the voters was a limited and personal one of the return of the King. The succession of Prince Paul follows automatically under the existing constitution.

The real strength of the Monarchy in Greece to-day rests neither on the constitution nor on individual personalities. King George was never well known personally to any large proportion of his subjects and the years of the war exile in London produced at least for a time a certain estrangement between the King and the rank and file of the Greek people. King Paul has been even less known as a personality to most Greeks. He has never been the subject of such violent controversy as his brother.

The real strength of the Greek Monarchy to-day has been stated by many observers to rest perhaps paradoxically on the country's deep internal divisions and unsettled international relations. Many voters in last September's plebiscite, though backing Monarchy, thought of the monarchic revolution at home and attack from outside.
The trouble in northern Greece is not likely to have lessened the force of these fears. It is, therefore, considered that the demand for reconsideration of the question of Monarchy or Republic for Greece is unlikely—except perhaps from the extreme left.—*Reuter.*

NEW KING IS 46

London, Apr. 2.
Forty-six-year-old Prince Paul who took the oath tonight to succeed the Greek throne as King Paul of Hellenes is a great grandson of Queen Victoria and is well known in Britain.
In 1938 he married Frederika Louise, daughter of the Duke of Brunswick and a Princess of Hanover.
He represented the Greek Crown at the funeral of King George V in London and at the coronation of King George VI.
Prince Paul has three children—six-year-old Prince Constantine who now becomes Crown Prince, Princess Sofia, aged nine, and Princess Irene, born in Capetown in 1942.—*United Press.*

German Youths Demonstrate In Brunswick

Herford, Apr. 1.
A crowd of youths marched through the town of Brunswick today, overturning cars and smashing the windows of the Military Government offices in one of the first hunger demonstrations to be held outside the Ruhr.

It was officially announced that the military were standing by "to deal with this situation as necessary." Ten thousand people also demonstrated in the neighbouring city of Hanover in the pouring rain. They carried banners demanding bread, and marched to the main square, where speakers addressed them through a microphone.
The Hanover demonstration was "organised by one of the political parties and was orderly and without incident," an official announcement said.

The statement added that the demonstrations followed a meeting over the weekend between the local German Food Minister and Trade Union leaders to discuss the food situation.

Both Hanover and Brunswick lie in the centre of one of the chief grain-producing areas of the British zone of Germany and well outside of the Rhine-Ruhr industrial area.

FOOD SHORTAGES

Meanwhile, 30,000 Germans staged new demonstrations against food shortages in the towns of Dulsburg and Hamburg today. The demonstrators carried placards reading "No Food, No Work" and "We are Hungry." No incidents were reported.

Between 10,000 and 12,000 people in Dulsburg listened in the drizzling rain to speakers from the German Communist and Social Democrat parties.

The crowd cheered when a Trade Union speaker said: "The British are not exercising enough control over the food distribution."
The people, the speaker said, were beginning to regard the promises about food supplies on the way as "British and American propaganda." The meeting broke up without incident, and afterwards a delegation of the Trade Unionists went to the local British commander who promised to pass on any demands to the proper authorities.

New Aircraft For B.O.A.C.

London, Apr. 1.
The British Overseas Airways Corporation have taken delivery of the first of a fleet of nine new Plymouth flying boats with which they plan to operate new services between Britain and Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf, and Bahrain and Karachi, early in May.

The Plymouths are powered by four Pratt and Whitney twin Wasp engines and weigh nearly 27 tons. They will carry 22 passengers by day and 16 by night.
Delivery is expected at the rate of two per month.—*Reuter.*

Woodcock Trains For Baksi Fight Behind Locked Doors

Doncaster, England, Apr. 1.
Bruce Woodcock is training behind locked doors in his stable loft gymnasium at Doncaster not because he shirks publicity but because of space limitations.
Discussing Baksi to-day the British and European heavyweight champion said: "Baksi is big and he is a strong fighter. I have heard a good deal about his in-fighting and I know he is not the type of fellow who goes back like many opponents I have met. I expect him to be coming in to meet me most of the time, but when I get in the ring I shall be prepared for anything."
Woodcock is trying to reduce his weight by taking less liquid with food.
Note: Wolfson, manager of Joe Baksi to-day burst the publicity baited advertisement the April 15 Woodcock-Baksi fight as "an elimination bout for a crack at Joe Louis for the title in June."

Wolfson said Baksi, even though he defeats Bruce Woodcock, will not meet Louis this summer, but will take a vacation in Czechoslovakia.

Wolfson said Tom Hurst, Woodcock's manager, also had expressed doubts whether he would permit the British champion to meet Louis this June.

Wolfson, however, was confident that Baksi can beat Louis.

"If Baksi stays five rounds he will win," Wolfson said. "Youth and strength will tell. Louis is not a young man any more and has not been hit hard in the body for a long time. If Baksi can stay in close to him he can win."

Baksi paced through an hour and half of fast training today pugilist two sparring partners through two

rounds each, then worked with a light bag and cooled out with calisthenics.

Maurice Marrinan, an Irish heavyweight, took a severe beating in his two-round session with Baksi.

"Baksi has a murderous punch in both hands," Marrinan said. He is very deceiving. He seems easy going and one is inclined to think everything is plain sailing. Then suddenly he brings a punch from nowhere—not telegraphing it—right to the mark."

Baksi boxed two rounds with fast middleweight Freddie Price to sharpen his timing and speed. Both Price and Marrinan agreed Baksi is too fast and punishing for Woodcock. Richard Hutton, Brighton's fight manager, termed Baksi "the fastest heavyweight I have ever seen."—*United Press.*

Respite For Dov Gruner

Jerusalem, Apr. 2.
The High Court today granted a temporary order staying the execution of Dov Gruner, convicted Jewish extremist, to hear the case filed by Israel Rotah, Tel-Aviv Mayor, seeking to annul the emergency laws under which Gruner was tried.
The case was set for April 3. Meanwhile, eight persons were detained in searches in Jerusalem outskirts. At the plenary session of the Vaad Leumi, David Ben Gurion declared: "We must double our efforts to crush terrorism, even if it means, by fighting them face to face."
It was the first open challenge of extremism by Hagannah. The Jewish underground army is against Ergun and Stern extremists.—*United Press.*

Shaw On Divorce Law Judgment

"Legislation Should
Upset It"

London, Apr. 1.
Mr. Frederick Raymond Weatherley said today that he guessed he had better see his lawyer before he talked about further moves to free himself of his wife, who had renounced all but the social ties of their marital life.

Yesterday the House of Lords ruled that Weatherley had no grounds for divorce for desertion because Mrs. Weatherley was "finished" with normal married relations.

"I'll venture such a decision would shake your people over there in Italy," Weatherley said.
George Bernard Shaw, contacted by the *United Press*, said he thoroughly agreed with the opinion of dissenting Lord Justice Scott and added that the judgment "did not mean much anyway because it was given in view of future legislation which would upset it—and should upset it."

Mr. Shaw, in a statement through his secretary, said: "I agreed with the opinion of the dissenting Justice. Judgment was given in view of future legislation, which will upset it and should upset it."

LADY ASTOR'S VIEW

The ardent anti-divorce advocate, Lady Astor, told the *United Press* from her country home that she had not "studied" the Weatherley decision yet, but "as a good Christian, I feel very strongly that you must keep to the law no matter how hard the law is to keep." However, she said, "I have the greatest respect for the honesty and integrity of Lord Justice Scott," who was the dissenting voice in the House of Lords decision.

Lady Astor said both parties had pledged to wed for "better or worse." "I don't want to get into a controversy over this particular case, but it is better not to marry if you are not sure." She said she still felt that "if humanly possible, it is better not to permit divorce."—*United Press.*

[Editorial Comment on this Page]

British Flood Relief Fund

Donations should be addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Morning Post Building, Hongkong. Cheques should be made out to "British Flood Relief Fund."

Donations Received

A. Hongkong-Chinese Resident	\$ 200.00
Francis D'Harville	1,000.00
S. C. M. Post, Ltd.	5,000.00
Ye Olds Printers	250.00

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

BLONDES... BRUNETTES AND REDHEADS... THEY ALL FELL FOR HIM... UNDER THE AXE! LONDON FILMS PRESENT

Charles LAUGHTON in *The Private Life of HENRY VIII*



with Robert DONAT • Marlo OBERON
Directed by Alexander KORDA
COMMENCING FRIDAY



with the music and the voices of
BENNY GOODMAN
DINAH SHORE
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
NELSON EDDY
JERRY COLONNA
ANDY RUSSELL
THE KING'S MEN
STERLING HOLLOMAN
THE PIED PIPERS

Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA
DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

CENTRAL: Extra performance at 12.30 P.M.

WHITE SAVAGE!
Mystery Queen of the Tropics!

Lashing men and beasts to hate... and love... in a forbidden Pagan Paradise!

SOUTH OF TAHITI

BRIAN DONLEVY
BROD CRAWFORD
ANDY DEVINE
HENRY WILCOXON
H.B. WARNER ARMIDA
and MARIA MONTEZ
The Screen's New Star of Exoticism!

ORIENTAL
FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.15 P.M.

SEE the Pagan Love... Primitive Hate... in an exotic, exciting South Seas paradise!

DOROTHY LAMOUR • JON HALL
in Paramount's music-filled thrill spectacle
"ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS"
THE ENTIRE PICTURE IN TECHNICOLOR!
SPECIAL FOR TO-MORROW
(ONE DAY ONLY)
THANK YOU LUCKY STARS
with Warner Bros. All Star Cast.

EASTER HOLIDAY ATTRACTION
VAN JOHNSON • ESTHER WILLIAMS
IN TECHNICOLOR
THRILL OF A ROMANCE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW **MAJESTIC** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

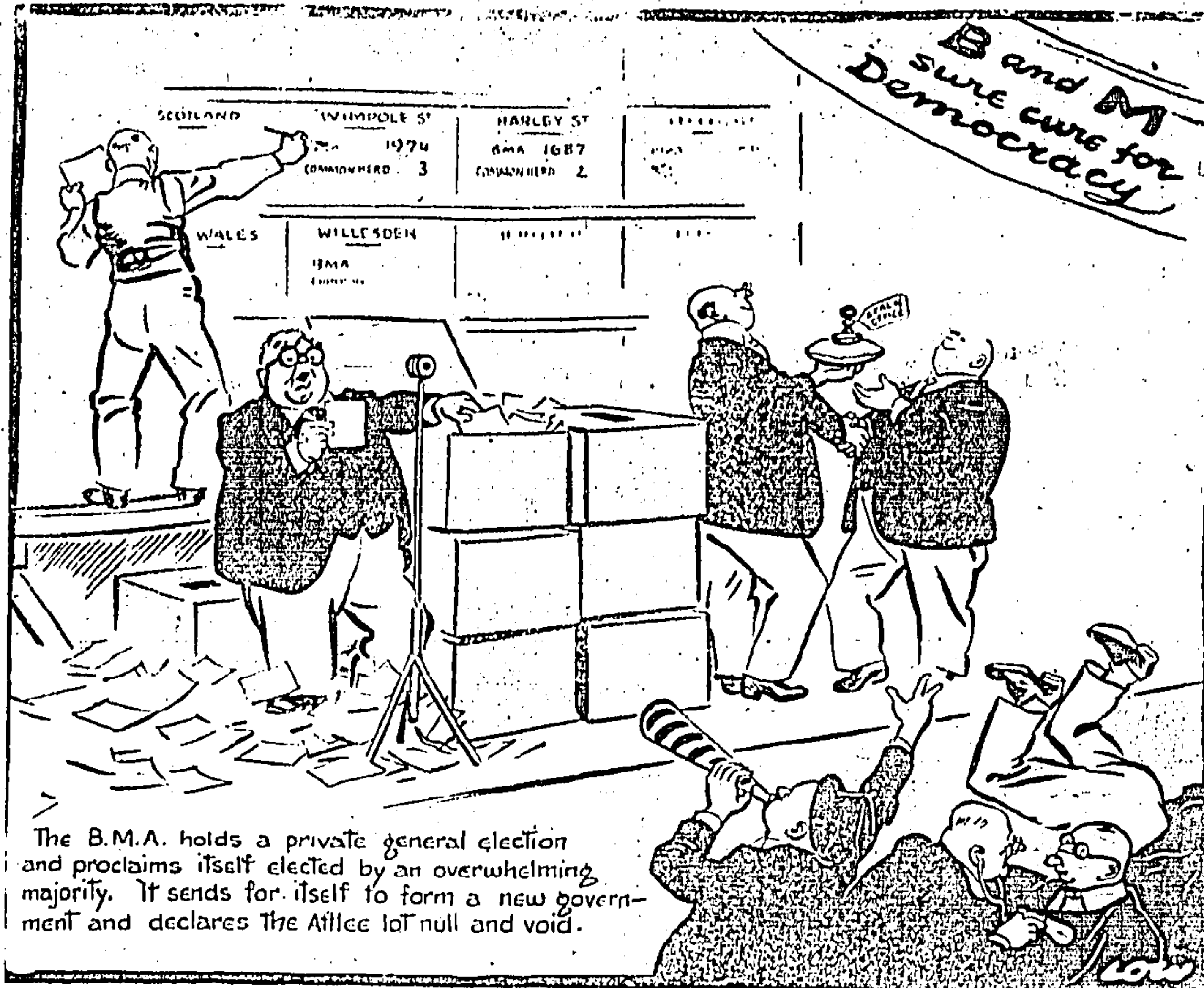
THE AMAZING STORY OF ARNHEM!

"THEIRS IS THE GLORY"

Distributed by EAGLE-LION

COMMENCING FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
CORNEL WILDE in *The BANDIT of SHERWOOD FOREST*
IN TECHNICOLOR



OLD LOW'S ALMANACK

Copyright in All Countries

PROPHECIES FOR 1947

Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

THIS is the first staggered column in the history of columns.

The history of columns goes back a long way, the first in Britain being the Doomsday Book.

That was written, I shouldn't wonder, by gloomy, bald types hired at about fourpence a year by William the Conqueror, who couldn't be bothered with such nonsense; and probably couldn't spell his Norman French either. Most successful men can't spell.

But, although the monetary reward of the despatched centuries was small, and although William probably lopped their ears off if he didn't like their stuff, they wrote their pieces in precisely heated castles and were properly fed, wotting their boars' heads and legs of beef, below the salt, maybe, but still wotting.

This column is also written by a gloomy, bald type in a room that is sometimes heated and sometimes not heated, according to the times when the electric current is switched on or off.

The columnist's money is more than fourpence a year, but not much more when Mr Bloodsucker, the income tax collector, has taken his whack, and his ears are safe.

Apart from that, he has no advantages over William's boys, as you shall see if you are still awake.

Within a few minutes your hands are too cold even to cross out the sentence you have written, and you give up till the next switch on.

As you haven't got years and years to do your stuff, like the pampered old egg heads in the lovely warm castles, you have to be pretty smart at your work when the heat's turned on again.

Yes, sir, Pretty smart.

No time for elegant prose. No time for the art that conceals art. No time for the skillfully turned sentence that rings sweetly in the ear of the appreciative reader.

No time for contriving the sudden surprise that knocks the reader flat. No time for the laborious composition which reads so easily that the reader wonders why he didn't write it himself.

In fact, no time to finish this. Here it comes. The cold. Hours of the cold.

Switch off

"There be triple ways to take with the eagle and the snake
And the way of a man with a mate
But the sweetest way to me is a ship's upon the sea
In the heat of a north-east trade."

KIPLING wrote that. It probably took him a week to get it right, either in the summer scribbling in his garden, or in the winter in front of a blazing fire. Poets don't write in freezing garrets, though smug sentimentalists like to think they do. I have quoted this because it is easier to quote from memory than to write when you are cold. In fact, I thought of doing a Dean Inge on you and filling the entire column with quotations linked together with the odd sentence here and there.

It also suggested to me that there be triple ways for a columnist to take during the switch off.

He can go to bed. He can go for a walk. He can go and drown himself.

No he can't. The village pond is solid ice.

But he can go to the low tavern and drown himself another way. That is if he is not a strong-minded columnist.

I tried going to bed. But I got tired of dressing and undressing.

I tried going for a walk, but I got tired of the northeast trade.

I tried going to the low tavern and got so so tired I slept all the rest of the day.

Switch on

HERE it comes. The lovely heat again. But only two hours of it. I shall have to be quick.

Two hours would be quite a long time if you started warm. William the Conqueror's egg heads would probably have written a whole sentence in that time. But it takes you an hour to warm up, leaving one hour.

One hour would be useful if you had been warm all day, with your mind ticking over ready to start with a stop-watch on your desk. Not that you would need a stop-watch these days.

But cold freezes the mind as well as the body. No wonder they sent clever people with dangerous thoughts to Siberia. Siberia would stop you thinking about anything but hot soup.

And of all things here comes the hot soup. And there it goes all over the newspaper I was trying to read. Of course, your tiny hands were frozen, but business is business. Damn it all, I was reading about cheese. In England, anyway. It ranks next to sausages for a laugh.

It was a debate in the House of Commons. Some poor devil was asking Dr. Edith Summerskill, the Food Minister's right-hand austerity girl, if, after seven or eight long years, he could have a bit of English Stilton cheese or a bit of Double Gloucester, instead of the imported lumps of soap they call cheese in foreign parts.

And what did she say? I don't know. The soup's all over her answer. But I expect it was some nanny-ish remark like "Imported soap is good for you."

The eternal nanny in all women comes out if you give them the slightest authority. Their ideal world is a vast nursery with everybody under proper control, everybody finishing up their crusts, everybody to bed early with clean hands and face, and everybody doing things they don't want to do because it's good for them, and nanny says so.

I mean nice women, of course. Not your slobbery-gibberly fly-by-nights who don't care if you eat poisoned cheese so long as...

Oh, lordy, lordy. Here comes the cold again. Just when I was reading an exorcisingly funny thing about

Heaven knows we need a few laughs

By JOHN MACADAM

TURNING our frostbitten feet from the sparkling pavements of the West End the other night to seek some alleviation of the horrors of peace, we entered the dressing room of that exquisite droll Bud Flanagan, with a vague idea that here would be a comic oasis in the economic desert.

One light glowered pallidly from a bracket and from the backmost gloom Flanagan said: "Be sure your Shinwell find you out."

It should be said that almost immediately he left for the south of France, but we take the trouble to quote this quote of a painful pun merely to put on record the fact that it is the only known joke that has come out of the present crisis.

Our observation is that the sense of humour that carried the British through World War I through the transition to and through World War II, and appeared to be standing up strongly to the facts of demobilisation and rehabilitation, has now given up the ghost.

World War I produced Bainsfather to record such defiant jokes as the Better, Ole, but the great point about Bainsfather was that he was not one wit in a sea of dullness; he was a wit echoing 100,000 wits. The jokes passed from man to man and trench to trench, in defiance of boredom, danger and death itself. Bainsfather immortalised.

THIS spirit ran through the years of preparation for the past war, and the people fortified themselves with it. It lasted right up to the beginning of the war, when a misguided thought of hanging up his washing on the Siegfried Line. It showed itself in a new slang which sharpened the quality of its wit on its disregard of danger.

Deadly jols—there was no future in them; anything you hadn't got, couldn't or wouldn't get—you'd had it; attacks on enemy shipping were shipping strikes. The spirit was there—and the wit to match it. Hard-bitten Army men sniggered at the R.A.F. Brylcreem Boys. Pestiferated civilians, carrying as much of a burden as any of them, rubbed the debris out of their eyes, smiled and hummed "When the lights go on again."

It was all good humoured, because it was in their nature to be anything else. It was even good humoured when a grateful country hung sacklike demob suits on their shoulders and green pork pie hats on their heads. They joked about using the hat for keeping flowers in and the suit for scoring blackbirds off the beans.

Then they were all at peace again, and they grinned their way through the first difficult months of transition. They took the No Beer and the No Cigarettes signs with as much cheerfulness as they had left over.

But the spontaneity began to go out of it. The smile didn't flicker so quickly. The jokes on politicians' names began to take on an acrid flavour.

NOW, it is our observation that the calamity after calamity and the feeling that there are more round the corner has dulled the edge. Beaten about the head by bombs, damned with faint rations for years, frozen, blacked out and bewildered, the Briton would appear to have had a lot of the resiliency knocked out of him.

In pubs and clubs and queues he no longer laughs it off. If there is a smile it is a very smile, as though every silver lining had a cloud.

But maybe it will all come back again with a blink of sunshine. Maybe.

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

DR. STRABISMUS (Whom God Preserve) of Utrecht has announced his intention of making an attempt to reach the moon in a stratospheric rocket-ship.

Preparations have been made in great secrecy at Wageningen, where the enormous rocket is already in position, clamped between two heliostats, and built into a concrete base. The rocket works on the pressure principle, and is propelled by its own energy, generated in a forward nozzle made of plutonium. The backward drive of the radio-active force encased in the central chamber is sufficient to expel the gases, which set up continuous explosions in the tail, thus reversing the force of gravity and the pull of the earth's surface, and enabling the two dynamo in the steel cylinders to replenish the nucleus as fast as they are used up. There the matter rests at present.

Haute Cuisine

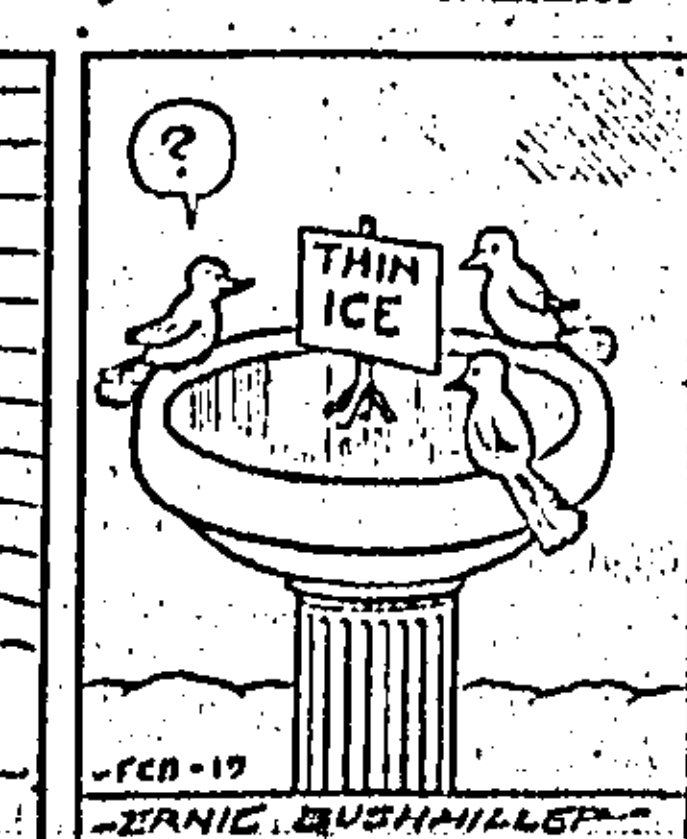
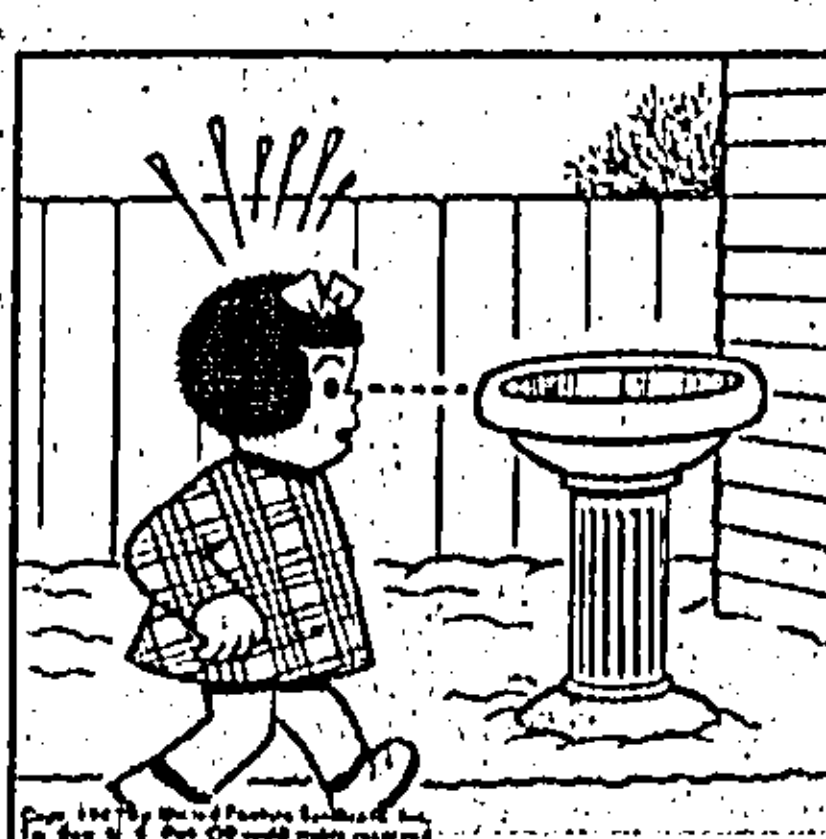
I READ of "a machine which will process raw liver into an appetising savoury in less than three minutes, without cooking." This

ought to make a good meal for the electronic brain, and it reminds me of the Strabismus method of knitting spaghetti into a close-meshed sweater, which could be worn or eaten or used to stuff trumpets with. Rissolo, the Italian to whom the song "Rissolo Mio" was dedicated, and who invented rissolos, had a way of tossing a pancake until it disappeared, which he called the Indian pancake trick. When gramophones were invented, he used to rather his friends round, put a pancake on the machine instead of a disc, and wait to see them mown down by bits of pancake.

Non-stop radio

THE B.B.C. Fourth Programme, to be started shortly, will be continuous; it will start on a given date, at a given hour, and will then proceed without pause, interval or surcease for three months, day and night. At the end of that time a corps of expert listeners will say, whether they think the public have had enough of it or not. It is thought that a Fifth Programme, lasting for two years without a break, may be needed to complete the work of battering the public into a state of complete exhaustion.

NANCY Let the Birds Beware



By Ernie Bushmiller

When You Feel Tired and Restless

tako

Elliott's Nerve and Brain Tonic

On Sale at All Dispensaries



STAR THEATRE

COMBINED SERVICES' ENTERTAINMENT
presents

"JIVE IN JEST"
BY PUBLIC DEMAND
WED., THUR., & SAT.: 2nd, 3rd & 5th APRIL
AT 7.30 P.M.
BOOKING HOURS:—12 p.m.—2 p.m. 4 p.m.—6.30 p.m.
TELEPHONE: 58335

C.S.E. STAR THEATRE
Presents
An
EASTER CONCERT
with
GASTON D' AQUINO
(Tenor)
CARMELITA LAWLESS
(Pianoforte)
and
**THE BAND OF THE 2nd BN.,
WEST YORKS, REGT.**
(Prince of Wales' Own)
A GRAND MUSICAL FEAST
In Aid of
THE SERVICES FAMILIES' CLUB
on
EASTER MONDAY, 7th APRIL 1947
AT 8.00 P.M.
BOOKING HOURS: 12 p.m.—2 p.m. 4 p.m.—6.30 p.m.
Telephone 58335
ADMISSION:—5s., £2.50, £1.50 & 80c.
This space is presented by
THE RED LION INN

War Crimes Suspects Break Gaol

Batavia, Apr. 1. A large-scale manhunt is under way for eight Japanese war crimes suspects who escaped last week from the Tjipinang prison near here after a gun battle with the guards.

Six persons were killed and two wounded in the battle. The break, it was reported, was planned by 50 Japanese prisoners but only 12 were known to have participated. The guards killed four. Another was found dead later in a native compound. An Ambonese soldier who had been imprisoned in the same gaol on a military charge was killed by the fugitives when he attempted to assist the guards. One guard was slightly wounded, and another seriously hurt. The escaped prisoners are believed to be members of the Kempetai. Associated Press.

U.S. Challenge To Soviets

Make Concessions, Or—

Moscow, Apr. 1. The United States to-day challenged the Soviet to begin making concessions on Germany or postpone indefinitely negotiation on the German peace treaty.

Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov will have an opportunity to reveal an answer late to-day when the Ministers, for the first time, here meet in a small informal session, accompanied only by two advisers and one interpreter each.

It will be recalled last November, after 14 months of fruitless negotiation on the Italian and satellite treaties, former U.S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes proposed adjournment with an announcement of failure, whereupon the next day the Soviets began compromising.

A significant reaction to Gen. George C. Marshall's speech was the failure of Moscow papers to mention either it or Mr. Molotov's reply. Instead, they carried one paragraph.

Observers considered significant that Mr. John Foster Dulles—Gen. Marshall's Republican adviser who has been the particular target of Soviet press attacks—at his own request is not attending today's informal conference. It was interpreted as part of an effort to eliminate any possible stumbling blocks to Soviet concessions, if they are willing to make any.

Gen. Marshall meanwhile announced his advisers at the conference will be Ambassador Bedell Smith and State Department counselor Ben Cohen. United Press.

Foreign Office Won't Let Down Romance

London, Apr. 1. The British Foreign Office promised to-day to join issue with Generalissimo Josef Stalin in the cause of international romance.

Stalin had refused exit visas for the Russian wives of 15 Britons who married while on Government service in Moscow, most of them during the war.

VIET NAMH WORKMEN IN RIOTS

Agon, SW France, Apr. 1.

Loudspeaker appeals and tear gas bombs were used by the French authorities here today to get several hundred Viet Namh workmen, who rioted yesterday, to quit their barracks.

Rioting broke out in the Toussaint labour camp between Viet Namh workers and pro-French Indo-Chinese workers.

Two Annamites were killed and several others were wounded. The bodies of those killed were to-day reported to be badly mutilated.

The Viet Namh rioters—described to-day as "mutineers"—barred themselves in one section of the barracks.

After tear gas bombs were thrown behind the barricades to-day, about 40 men came out rubbing their eyes. Later, a second attack was made with gas bombs, causing a few more to surrender. Reuter.

GOOD NEWS FOR TENNIS PLAYERS

SPALDING TENNIS BALL ENGLISH

At Pro-War Price

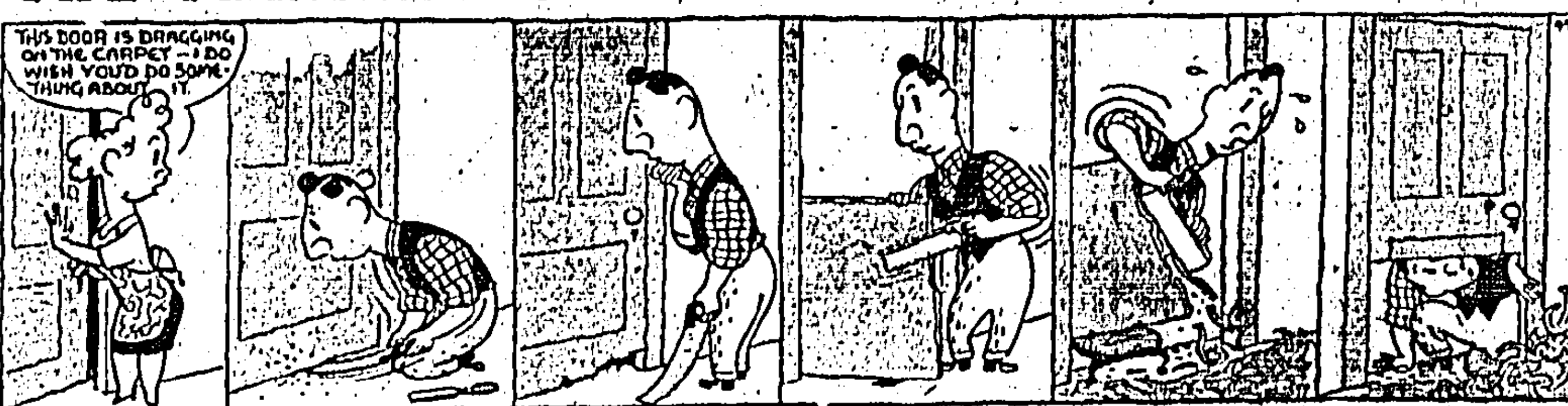
\$1.75 each

G. S. BROTHERS
SPORTS OUTFITTERS & TAILORS

11 Hankow Road, Kowloon.
Tel. 56913.

THE PARKERS

by HODGES



REPORT ON WAR'S RAVAGES IN ASIA

BY CHARLES A. GRUMICH
(Associated Press Staff Correspondent)

New York, Apr. 1.

The ravages of the Orient, caused by the prowar Japanese expansion and Japanese wartime attack, plundering, dislocations, scorched earth tactics and mass destruction, must be taken into account as reconstruction is planned, according to long-range views of experts which have been presented to the United Nations Economic Commission for the Far East and Asia.

HE FINDS A NEW FLOCK OF SINNERS

Hastings, Apr. 1.

The Vicar of Christ Church, who contended recently with ghouls and vandals, found today he had a whole new flock of sinners. He found that his parishioners were "messing around with the Ten Commandments," and said he would not be surprised if they would be visited with divine displeasure.

The Rev R. B. Flynn said the people of Hastings went too far when they voted for Sunday movies.

"There was a case in Martineau where the people also went too far," he said. "They held a mock religious ceremony on Good Friday and crucified a pig. The next day a volcano erupted and killed every one in town except a man in a dungeon."

"I do not prophesy anything so dreadful will happen in Hastings. But messing around with the Ten Commandments only gets the people into trouble—and Sunday movies break the Fourth Commandment."

The Vicar took time off for his warning from directing the filling-in of 14th century graves in the church cemetery which were opened by ghouls, and the scraping of red paint brushed on pews last week by vandals, who also ripped the altar hangings and broke candlesticks. United Press.

A report of the working group for Asia and the Far East made public, recites a long story of physical destruction in war.

China, the longest sufferer under Japanese expansion, provides a cardinal example of postwar internal conflict, and encompasses a reconstruction problem that cannot be appraised finally until the current strife between the Nationalist Government forces and Chinese Reds is ended.

The report does not over-emphasize the fighting which broke out on new lines after the Japanese surrender, mainly in China, Indonesia and Indo-China.

In one section on the Indo-China federation, the report cites looting by the Japanese from the time of their pre-war harbor entrance at Tonkin in September 1940 and the "destruction resulting from the hostilities caused by the enemy, by regular Allied and French troops, by resistance troops inside the country, or by continued internal strife." Associated Press.

Viet Namh Problem

Thus by roundabout means, presumably on the basis of French reports, the internal strife in Indo-China is reported to the UNO as a medium of economic destruction which must be repaired if the French Far Eastern outpost is to be woven into a peacetime pattern for Asia.

Paradoxically, the Viet Namh rebellion can intrude into UNO circles only as it affects the economic problems of Asia and the world at large. As a central problem of the French, it cannot be presented as a matter for the attention of the UNO Security Council.

In the report, the description of scorched earth damage to oil, tin, shipping and harbour installations is contrasted by the more optimistic picture of the Netherlands East Indies.

The report says: "The islands' recovery has been enormously retarded by internal conflict and social unrest since VJ-Day, but the recent agreement between the NEI Government and the Indonesian Republic should pave the way to a comprehensive rehabilitation programme."

Economic Effects. But here again, internal conflict has shown itself as affecting economic stability, as evidenced by recent incidents in which both American and British merchant ships have been stopped by Dutch authorities seeking to impound cargoes loaded at Indonesian ports.

These developments have come too recently for any possible mention in the report to UNO, and Lieutenant Governor Hubertus J. van Mook of the NEI not long ago promised that the situation soon would permit open trading with the outside world—meaning apparently that ownership of estate produce would be established in the agreement between the Dutch and Indonesians.

The report contains no mention of the Chinese civil war, which the United States tried to avert through the now abandoned efforts of General George C. Marshall and his peace teams. Associated Press.

Winnie Steals The Show

London, Apr. 1.

Mr Winston Churchill, repeatedly called Britain's No. 1 Communist baiter by Radio Moscow, stole the show from Prime Minister Attlee at the Soviet Embassy's reception to-night for the Russian delegation visiting England.

While Mr Attlee drank half a dozen toasts in port, the wartime Premier insisted on real vodka and clinked his glass time and time again, speaking in Russian "Za vashu zdorovie" (your health). He said Stalin taught him this.

The Russians crowded up to shake his hand. Mr Attlee, who wore a red flower in his buttonhole, left just as Churchill arrived. United Press.

U.S. Recognition

Seoul, Korea, April 1.

The British Consul-General in Seoul has been officially recognized by the American Military Government, it was announced by the Acting Commanding General of South Korea. Reuter.

George Cross For Padre

London, Apr. 1.

The award is announced to-day of the George Cross to a South African-born chaplain in the Royal Air Force, the Rev Mr Herbert Cecil Pugh, who, in the words of the official citation, "went to certain death" to injured airmen on a sinking ship.

The troopship Anselm was torpedoed while on the way from Britain to West Africa on July 5, 1941. The Rev Mr Pugh insisted on being lowered to the injured men in a flooded hold. He was last seen kneeling in prayer with water up to his shoulders the moment before the ship sank. Reuter.

New Factors In Asian Relations

New York, Apr. 1.

The New York Herald-Tribune, in an editorial today, commented on the growing Asiatic unity of thought, and warned nations with Far East interests to take the new factors into consideration.

The editorial said: "Members of the Viet Namh delegation from Indo-China received an enthusiastic welcome at the Asian Relations Conference in New Delhi. It seems apparent that political leaders at the conference support the Viet Namhese in their conflict with the French."

"This emphasises once again that new factors must be taken into account by nations which have interests in the Orient, and that one of these is the reaction of Asiatic peoples to events in any particular Asiatic country."

"Some years hence, it may be necessary for any country attempting a major line of policy in Asia to take into consideration Indian opinion, Chinese opinion and Indonesian opinion, regardless of whether the policy directly affects India or China or Indonesia."

The Possibilities

"A strong India might dominate power in all southern Asia. A strong China might have influence in the Far East as wide as that possessed by China in the greatest days of the empire. In-roads of Western powers to take into account the desires of all Asiatic peoples. The little good that will be gained in the next few years could pay dividends for generations." United Press.

Gandhi At Conference

New Delhi, Apr. 1.

Mohandas K. Gandhi, addressed the Inter-Asian Conference to-day, urging approval of a permanent Asian Institute to meet regularly but "not wage war with Europe and America."

Gandhi advocated a one-world principle as well as Asian unity, saying: "I would not want to live in this world if it was not going to be one world. I would like to see this realised in my lifetime—not in this generation, but in my lifetime."

With Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru holding the microphone for him, Gandhi smilingly apologised for his weak voice and for addressing the delegates from a sitting position.

He said: "My eyes are failing me, my ears are failing me, and one day the lamp will be extinguished." Gandhi made an impressive entrance into the conference hall at the Lady Irwin Girls' College.

He walked down the aisle past a double row of white-clad Indian girl students, flanked by Nehru and as Moslem, followed in non-violence, the six-foot-seven Pathan, Abdul Ghafoor Khan, called the "Frontier Gandhi." United Press.

RUSSIAN STAND ON DAIREN

Moscow, April 1.

The Tass Agency to-day denied Chinese press reports that the Soviets were not admitting the Chinese administration into the Dairen region, and said Russia has repeatedly proposed to the Chinese Government—no administration be established.

Tass added: "Up to the present no answer has been received from the Chinese Government. Such a situation evidently can be explained by the fact that in China there is a certain paralysis of power." United Press.

Salazar Denies He Is Dictator

Lisbon, Apr. 1.

Premier Dr Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, in a statement issued on the installation of the new executive committee of the official party, Uniao Nacional, affirmed that Portugal is ruled by a constitutional government, and denied charges of dictatorship.

He said that the country's constitution was affirmed by the people through a plebiscite, the head of the state was elected by direct vote, an assembly handled the legislative function, and the judicial part of the government was independent and not appointed by the president as in the American republics.

Dr Salazar criticized foreign press comment and speculation on an impending change in the Lisbon government.

"We do not intend to leave the government," he said. "On the contrary we intend to remain."

He said any country needs a strong government to rebuild its economic life and its material existence. He pointed out that too great emphasis on political parties had weakened many states, particularly in Latin America.

Will Fight Opposition

"After 20 years of the new doctrine and an example of a National State, existing for the benefit of all Portuguese," he said, "we are persisting the same mental attitudes among the opposition, the same party feeling. The opposition has changed nothing and wants to bring back the old life."

"Obviously we do not want to declare power to them. The National Revolution, begun 20 years ago, cannot be limited to an administrative reorganisation. It must be capped by a political reformation, which has thus far awaited the completion of other tasks."

Dr Salazar promised to turn the government's attention henceforth towards such a political rejuvenation "without abandoning power which has brought the country 20 years of peace and social and material development."

He suggested enlarging the Uniao Nacional to include all Portuguese. He said the government would retain its anti-party convictions and promised a new, vigorous fight against those who opposed the present regime. United Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Air Mail and Parcel Post close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:

Amoy, Swatow, Canton (Sea) 3 p.m.
Straits (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin, Hankow, Taingtai, Canton (Train) 4 p.m.
Fochow, Shanghai (Air) 3:30 p.m.
Amoy, Hankow, Hankow, Taingtai, Peking, Canton, Liuchow, Kuning, (Air) 3:30 p.m.
Siam, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland, London (Air) 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 3
Taingtai (Sea) 10 a.m.
Amoy (Sea) 10 a.m.
Swatow, Bangkok (Sea) 11 a.m.
Hankow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Train) 4 p.m.

Friday, April 4
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Basra, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marseilles, London, New York, Canada (Air) 10 a.m.
Chungking, Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Taingtai, Peking (Air) 10 a.m.
Canton, Hothow, Kuning (Air) 10 a.m.
Canada via Vancouver B.C. (Sea) 10 a.m.

USA, Central & South America via San Francisco (Sea) 10 a.m.
Hankow (Sea) 10 a.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 10 a.m.
Straits, Sandakan (Sea) 10 a.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 10 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi (Sea) 10 a.m.
Canton (Train) 10 a.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW on 845 kilocycles from 12:30 to 2 p.m., and from 6:30 to 11 p.m., and also on 5.52 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12:30 to 1:15, 5:30 to 7:30 and 9 to 11 p.m.

I.K.T.
6:30 Frank Sinatra and Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra; 7 London Relay; World News; 7:10 London Relay; Home News from Britain; 7:15 "We Sing for You"—Margaret Technicolor (Gramercy) and Heinrich Schlusman (Hartono); 7:30 (replay) "Sally and Sam"; 8:15, 10:15, 10:45 Request Programme arranged by Lynn Fraser; 8:30 With Eric Coates; 9: London Relay; News; 9:10 Studio; "Swing Ship"; Featuring Bunny Berigan & His Orch. Arranged and presented by George Lobb & Al Stott; 9:40 "Early Parade"—Sings and Screen Stars of To-day and Yesterday; 10:15 London Transcription Service; "A Case for Paul Temple"; Episode 7 "In Which The Net Tightens"; 10:45 "Twilight Melodies"; 11: Close Down.

NOTICE

Easter Holidays

There will be no issue of "The Hongkong Telegraph" on Good Friday, 4th April, and no issue of the "South China Morning Post" on Saturday, 5th April.

Printed and published by Frederick Percy Franklin for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

Royal Family Arrives In Johannesburg

Johannesburg, Apr. 1.

A crowd estimated at 1,000,000 witnessed the Royal Family's triumphal arrival into Johannesburg today. From mine, factory and office in Johannesburg they came, and from towns and villages within 100 miles radius. They congregated from Monday afternoon outside the City Hall, with blankets, rugs and pillows they stubbornly persisted in their all-night vigil despite a heavy rain storm.

The Johannesburg population was overnight increased by at least 250,000, and for most of these only improvised accommodation was available. Hotels, boarding houses and lodgings were out of the question for the majority of the visitors.

Only a few decades ago, this city of proud tall buildings and golden opulence, with its many-sided commercial and industrial life was a small mining camp.

Johannesburg's crowded greetings to their Majesties and to the Princesses was like that of Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth and other cities but more amplified.

The Transvaal metropolis, determined not to be outdone by other cities, was bedecked with mile upon mile of bunting and flags, and many spectators wore colourful costumes. Snacks vendors, balloon hawkers and peddlers of souvenirs were unable to keep up with the demand.

Two hundred thousand non-Europeans lined sections of the route to hail the "father of the nations."

The Royal Family's day here will be one of the most crowded of their tour, there being on the programme presentations, inspections, unveilings, the opening of an agricultural show, a civic luncheon, children's shows, horse racing, a banquet, a young people's ball and fireworks in the evening. Associated Press.

HAIFA DOCK AREA STILL BURNING

Jerusalem, Apr. 1.

Smoke from bomb-hit fires continued to rise from the ruins of part of the far-flung Haifa oil dock area 36 hours after the underground attack that laid waste to an estimated £1,000,000 worth of oil products and equipment.

The investigators are still being kept away from the scene by the terrible heat and by burning oil in two tanks.

Fourteen tanks were destroyed in the blaze, which followed three explosions early on Monday morning. Palestine Government officials called a second conference to-day to discuss the blaze. Associated Press.

COMMUNAL STRIFE CONTINUES

Calcutta, Apr. 2.

Calcutta's Communist trouble continued to-day with six new fires and stringent measures by the police and military trying to stop the half-scattered fighting and looting.

There were 90 arrested and one rioter was shot dead. Two others died in battles, and 11 cases of arson were reported. Thirty-two buildings were destroyed in fires yesterday.

Unofficial reports said eight were killed yesterday in Calcutta and 20 others died in fighting in the Howrah industrial suburb. United Press.

Here Again! The World's Famous

SIMMONS

Beauty-rest

Inner Spring

MATTRESSES

STEEL BEDSTEADS and BEDSPRINGS

(a small shipment)

due to arrive approximately

3rd April ex S.S. "Marino Arrow"

ADVANCE ORDERS BEING BOOKED

For further particulars please apply—

JONES WONG & CO.

Furnishing Department

184 Nathan Rd.,

Near Austin Rd.

Kowloon.

Tel. 58430.

WANT AN APARTMENT?

NO THANKS! MAKE MINE MUSIC!

WALT DISNEY'S LATEST TECHNICOLOR FEATURE!

OPENING

FRIDAY at the

QUEEN'S

CATHAY

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY

At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

A GRIPPING EXPOSE OF A MOST SINISTER SPY RING!

"UNDER SECRET ORDERS"

Starring: John LODER • Erich STROHEIM

NEXT CHANGE

LAUREL • HARDY & DANTE THE MAGICIAN

"A - HAUNTING WE WILL GO"